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# C A L I F O R N I A

## Labor & Workforce Development Agency

### N E W S R E L E A S E

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Labor and Workforce Development Agency and VF Corporation Announce A Major Coup in Visalia**

Sacramento--Working with a team of state and local organizations, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency's (LWDA) Business Investment Services Unit (CalBIS) helped VF Corporation add a distribution center in Visalia which is anticipated to open in 2006 and create 350 local jobs. VF Corp. is the largest high-value branded apparel company in the world with jeanswear, intimate wear, outdoor and specialty apparel lines of clothing.

Under the governor's leadership to ensure that California remains business friendly by encouraging job growth, job creation, and job retention, a team comprised of CalBIS, the City of Visalia and the Tulare county Economic Development Corporation, helped coordinate efforts with VF to find the best-suited, best situated site to meet VF's apparel distribution needs.

"This is a perfect example of the kind of collaboration it takes to attract businesses in California," said Victoria Bradshaw, secretary of LWDA. "A collaboration between government and the private sector helps enhance business opportunities and foster community pride."

CalBIS worked with VF for approximately one year to help it find an ideal location for a distribution center that would serve the western half of the United States. In addition, both the City of Visalia and the Tulare County Economic Development Corporation also worked diligently and expressed praise for VF's recognition of the positive business environment, excellent labor force and the community's strong quality of life benefits. The City and the county economic development corporation recognize the benefits the 800,000 square foot VF distribution center will add for the local economy, as well as the jobs it will create.

CalBIS has been established within LWDA as the "front door" for employers, providing no-fee site selection assistance and investment counseling for corporate real estate executives and site location consultants considering California for new business investment and job creation. For information on CalBIS please visit [www.labor.ca.gov/calBIS/](http://www.labor.ca.gov/calBIS/).

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